

H
Library

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF MARKET RASEN

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
AND SURVEYOR**

for the Year

1963



Public Health Committee—

Councillor B. ATKIN

„ W. D. BLACKMAN

„ D. E. DAY

„ A. R. FARROW (Chairman)

„ R. C. PICKERING

„ Mrs. A. B. NETTLESHIP, J.P. (Chairman
of the Council)

STAFF:

Medical Officer of Health—

E. HOPE LAMB, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Public Health Inspector—

ARTHUR E. SWEETING, Cert. S.I.B.

Market Rasen Urban District Council

*With the Compliments
of*

The Laxeyxxx Public Health Inspector
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Council Offices
John Street
Market Rasen
Lincs.

Tel. 3263

Madam Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for 1963.

As I am about to take up another appointment, this foreword is being written well ahead of the publication of the report, many statistical details of which will not be available until a later date. I am therefore preparing the report in outline, leaving my successor to enter data when they come to hand.

In the usual way I have asked Mr. Sweeting, as Public Health Inspector, to deal with environmental health.

My thanks are due to the Clerk of the Council and to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and support. I think they appreciate that I have always dealt with matters of public health without fear or favour, which in a small town may occasionally incur the risk of some unpopularity. I shall miss Mr. Arthur Sweeting, to whom I am grateful for his help not only in the past year but in the three years of my service to Market Rasen.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,
E. HOPE LAMB,
Medical Officer of Health.

February 2nd, 1964

VITAL AND GENERAL STATISTICS

Population 1959	—	2,140
Population 1960	—	2,090
Population 1961	—	2,250
Population 1962	—	2,280
Population 1963	—	2,300

The area of the Urban District Council is 972 acres or 1.5 square miles, giving a population density of 2.3 persons per acre or 1,532 people per square mile. (The 1962 figure was 1,520 per square mile.)

The rateable value of the District on 31st March 1963 was £24,099 and the product of a penny rate for the year ending 31st March 1963 was £97.13.11.

Extracts from the Vital Statistics for 1963.

Estimated Mid-Year Home Population	Births 2.11			Deaths 0.79		
	Males			Females		
	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit.
Live Births	16	14	2	29	26	3
Still Births	1	1	—	—	—	—
Deaths of Infants						
Under 1 year of age	—	—	—	1	1	—
Under 4 weeks of age	—	—	—	1	1	—
Under 1 week of age	—	—	—	1	1	—
Market Rasen Urban District				England & Wales (provisional)		
Birth rate per 1000 estimated mid-year population, corrected	23.7			18.2		
Death rate per 1000 estimated mid-year population, corrected	15.5			12.2		
Death rate of infants under 1 year old per 1000 live births	22.2			20.9		

The birth rate has increased more than the national figure, while the death rate, although appreciably greater than last year's, is still considerably lower than the birth rate. The infant mortality rate represents only one single death, the same as in 1962.

Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life during 1963

Cause of death	Sex	Total	AGE IN YEARS				
			All ages	Under 4 weeks	45—55	55—65	65—75
10 Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	1	—	—	—
11 Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	1	—	—	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—
12 Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	1	—	—	—
14 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	1	—	—	—	—	1
	F	2	—	1	—	—	1
17 Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	3	—	—	—	2	1
	F	5	—	—	1	2	2
18 Coronary Disease, Angina	M	7	—	—	1	1	5
	F	1	—	—	—	1	—
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	1	—
20 Other Heart Diseases	M	7	—	—	—	1	6
	F	5	—	—	—	3	2
21 Other Circulatory Disease	M	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	2	—
22 Influenza	M	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	1
23 Pneumonia	F	1	—	—	—	—	1
	M	2	—	—	—	1	1
32 Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	M	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	4	1	—	—	—	3
Total All Causes	M	21	—	—	1	5	15
	F	24	1	3	1	9	10

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

During 1963 there were fifty-six notifications of which fifty-three were measles. It was the alternate peak year for the disease, and Market Rasen duly had its quota. The majority of the cases, 42, occurred during June and July. For the third year running there were no notifications of whooping cough.

Diseases notified during the past four years were :

Disease	1963	1962	1961	1960
Measles	53	1	60	Nil
Scarlet Fever	1	Nil	7	1
Dysentery	Nil	Nil	1	1
Pneumonia	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	1	Nil	Nil	1
Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil	Nil	1

In addition to the diseases notified, the Head Teacher of a Primary School informed me early in May that there had been an outbreak of diarrhoea at his school during the previous two days. He added that there had also been cases at two other primary schools outside the town which were supplied with their mid-day meal from his school canteen. Investigation revealed that 49 pupils, 3 teachers and 2 of the canteen staff had been affected. All but 5 of the affected children had partaken of the mid-day meal on the first day, and the onset of most of the cases was that same evening. As all this had happened two days earlier, no remnants of the suspected meal were still available and most of the victims had recovered. All I could do was take stool specimens from the four canteen staff.

Five days later the Head Teacher contacted me again to say that there had been another outbreak. He and others on the staff had suffered from diarrhoea starting the previous evening or in the early hours of that morning. Four teachers and another of the canteen staff were affected. Each of the four teachers had eaten the school mid-day meal on the previous day. Two who had not were unaffected. Sixteen children were absent from school, some of them were known to have diarrhoea, while a considerable number of others were subsequently alleged to have had symptoms. I was again informed that there were similar cases at the other two schools.

On this occasion I was able to obtain samples of all the items on the previous day's lunch menu, and also took stool samples from the teachers and some of the children and contacted the district medical officers covering the other two schools with a view to their taking similar action.

In the event, all specimens from the first and second waves of the outbreak proved negative. The second wave, like the first, died down rapidly.

While the cause of the outbreak was "not proven", there was circumstantial evidence of food having been the means of disseminating the infection, in particular the school lunch on the day the second wave started. Inspection of the canteen and staff revealed no obvious source of infection, but there seemed some justification for keeping close watch on kitchen hygiene. The efforts of myself and the Public Health Inspector to pinpoint the cause of this outbreak resulted in an outburst of indignation from the Canteen Committee, who even went so far as to try to disprove that their canteen could have been to blame.

HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Home Health Services

These are provided by Lindsey County Council. They include the health visitor, district nurse, midwife, home helps and various welfare services. The health visitor is resident at the Market Rasen Clinic. During the year a part-time district nurse was employed, who had to resign in December, but another was appointed to start work on 1st January 1964.

Mental Health Services

Treatment is arranged with the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board, while supervision and after-care are given by trained staff employed by Lindsey County Council. The latter also arrange for the care of mentally subnormal persons.

Tuberculosis Treatment Centres

Treatment and after-care of cases of tuberculosis are arranged by the Regional Hospital Board, the nearest centres being at Brigg, Lincoln and Grimsby.

Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory at St. Annes Road, Lincoln, under the direction of Dr. Croll, provides all necessary services, including the supply of immunising agents not available from the Public Health Department of the County Council. Dr. Croll is always ready to advise and even visit if asked.

School Clinic

The School Clinic is administered by the County Medical Officer, its immediate conduct and supervision being left under the control of the Medical Officer of Health, in his capacity as Assistant County Medical Officer, assisted by the health visitor. The Clinic is at the service of all surrounding schools for advice, treatment of minor ailments, immunisation and medical examinations, and it also affords facilities for other duties such as examination of adults and adult immunisations. This well-equipped clinic is an asset, and would be more so if local transport allowed more people to get to it. The premises accommodate several other clinics : infant and child welfare, physiotherapy, psychiatric, ophthalmic, dental, and speech therapy.

The Grange

This home for deprived children between the ages of 3 and 15 is a County service which comes under the supervision of your Medical Officer in his Assistant County capacity.

The Poplars

This is a County home for old people, and houses some 30 persons of either sex.

Ambulance Service

During the year the ambulance service became a separate entity from the fire service. Additional staff became necessary and were specially instructed in their duties.

An ambulance may be obtained through one's own doctor, or in emergency by contacting the telephone exchange.

Immunisation

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following particulars of immunisations carried out during 1963 :—

	Under five years of age at date of initial immunisation		Between five and fourteen years of age at date of initial immunisation		Boosting Doses				
Diphtheria Immunisation	—		—		42				
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisations	Under	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough Immunisations	Under	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
	10	26	5	—	—	—	—	—	41
Diphtheria Tetanus Immunisations	Under	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Whooping Cough Immunisations	Under	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough and Tetanus Immunisations	Under	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	Under	One	1-4	5-14	15 or over	Total			
Vaccination	8	—	—	—	3	11			
Re-vaccination	—	1	—	—	1	2			
Tetanus Immunisation	Under	One	1-4	5-14	15 or over	Total			
Initial Courses	—	—	—	3	—	3			
Booster	—	—	—	—	—	—			

With infant, toddlers', and school clinics available in the town, and even allowing for cases immunised by their General Practitioner, the figures are regrettably low.

Poliomyelitis

For the third year the County Medical Officer has been able to give figures for poliomyelitis immunisations.

Salk Vaccine

	Persons born in the years.					
	63	62	61	60-43	42-33	Others
Had 2 injections	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Persons born in the years.					
	63	62	61	60-43	42-33	Others
Had 3 injections	—	—	—	—	—	1
	Persons born in the years.					
	63	62	61	60-43	42-33	Others
Had 4 injections	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oral Vaccine						
	Persons born in the years.					
	63	62	61	60-43	42-33	Others
Initial course of 3 oral doses	4	35	9	2	1	1
	Persons born in the years.					
	63	62	61	60-43	42-33	Others
Booster oral after 2 salk injections	—	—	1	—	—	—
	Persons born in the years.					
	63	62	61	60-43	42-33	Others
4th oral after 3 salk injections	—	—	—	17	—	—

Tuberculosis

In accordance with policy, children in the third form of the secondary schools were offered the Heaf Test, and if positive, B.C.G. vaccination. The following results were obtained.

Heaf Tested 121 Positive 3 (2.5%)

There has been a distinct fall in the positive rate over the past years :

Year	Tests	Positive	Percentage
1961	45	5	11.1
1962	129	10	7.7
1963	121	3	2.5

The difference between the 1962 and 1963 percentages just fails to show significance; in other words, it could only just have occurred by chance, and more probably shows a lowered exposure to infection.

The Heaf-negatives were given B.C.G. vaccine. The positives are subject to follow-up by Lindsey County Council.

Fluoridation of Water Supply

This great advance in preventive medicine, or, to be more precise, preventive dentistry, has met with appalling and fanatic opposition wherever in the world it has been considered. The opposition goes beyond the bounds of bigoted politics and is more akin to medieval fear of witchcraft. Patient scientific reassurance has hardly quelled the fanatics.

At all events, Market Rasen Urban District Council agreed to the proposal to fluoridate their water supply to the accepted standard of 1 part per million, without even asking me to make out a case. Their good sense is to be commended.

Madam Chairman and Gentlemen,

I wish to submit my report for 1963 relating to the public health side of the department.

Many public health improvements were again carried out, but there still remains a lot yet to be done, particularly in the field of housing.

Your decision to purchase six acres of land for housing purposes close to the town centre is, it is felt, a wise one.

The provision of further bungalows for the elderly and houses for general needs will, there is no doubt, be welcomed by many.

The relationship between this department and the various tradesmen, shopkeepers, and butchers, with whom a lot of time is spent, continues to be excellent thus making the work of the department much easier.

Once again I thank the Chairman and Members of the Council, the Medical Officer of Health and the Clerk for the help given me during the year.

I am Madam Chairman & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR E. SWEETING,

Public Health Inspector.

Housing

No houses were demolished during the year, but one was closed. Lists are being prepared of houses requiring drastic action and these will be dealt with as and when alternative accommodation becomes available.

With regard to the erection of new houses, the number has considerably increased this year and it would seem this progress will be maintained for some time.

The Council's scheme of making 100% advances to purchasers of houses continues to be well patronised, particularly by the younger people.

Improvement Grants

Sixteen improvement grants were issued during the year — 10 Discretionary and 6 Standard.

It is noticed that more interest is being shown in the converting of existing buildings into flats which no doubt satisfies a need.

The encouragement of property owners to take advantage of grants available continues, but I would like to see considerably more of this work carried out.

Food Preparing and Making Up Places

All have been well maintained throughout the year and no infringements were discovered.

Meat Inspection

The number of animals slaughtered during the year has again exceeded the 4,000 mark and, as required by the Regulations, all were inspected.

The amount of meat it was found necessary to condemn as being unfit for human consumption was again low which emphasises the excellent quality of the animals slaughtered.

Sewers and Sewage Disposal.

The drainage scheme worked well during the year and only very minor works were necessary.

Regular 'sanding' was again carried out in order to ensure a free flow.

The pumps and other apparatus at the disposal works gave very little trouble and were satisfactorily maintained.

The pump you purchased for the purpose of emptying the detritus tank has proved an excellent investment, the hard manual labour being virtually eliminated and the time taken to empty the tank being considerably less.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

This service was satisfactorily performed during the year and no complaints of a serious nature were received.

Tipping continued on the site at the rear of the sewage disposal works and all possible steps were taken to avoid nuisance. Regular inspections were made by the rodent operator and, when necessary, treatments given.

Water Supply

The water supplied to the district by the North East Lincs. Water Board continues to be satisfactory in quality and quantity.

STATISTICS

Housing

Total No. of dwellinghouses and flats in district ...	....	....	852
Total No. of new houses erected during the year :			
(a) by the Local Authority	....	....	Nil
(b) by other Local Authorities	....	....	Nil
(c) by other bodies or persons	....	....	13 hs. & 4 fl.
(d) Number allocated for replacing houses subject to Demolition Orders or otherwise demolished	....	....	Nil

Housing Repairs and Rents Acts, 1954-57

No. of certificates of disrepair issued Nil

Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the year

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 103
 (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 225

Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers 90

Action under Statutory Powers during the year**(1) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—**

- (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied Nil

(2) Proceedings under Housing Acts :—

- (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs Nil
 (b) Number of unfit houses purchased by local authority in accordance with Housing Acts Nil
 (c) Number of certificates of disrepair issued Nil

(3) Slum Clearance—proceedings under the Housing Acts

- (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made Nil
 (b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil
 (c) Number of dwelling-houses, or parts, subject to Closing Orders 1
 (d) Number of dwelling-houses or parts, rendered fit by undertakings Nil
 (e) Number of dwelling-houses included in confirmed Clearance Orders Nil
 (f) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance thereof Nil
 (g) Total number of dwelling-houses on which Demolition Orders are operative and which are still occupied except under the provisions of Section, 34, 35 and 46 of the Housing Act, 1957. Nil
 (h) Total number of dwelling-houses occupied under Sections 34, 35 and 46 of the Housing Act, 1957 Nil
 (i) Houses demolished or closed voluntary by owners which would otherwise have been the subject of statutory action to secure demolition or closure Nil

(4) Nissen Huts or other similar Hutments :—

- (a) Number still occupied Nil

(5) Estimated number of dwellings, excluding those under paragraph (4) of the above, remaining to be dealt with under

- (a) The Housing Act, 1957, Sections 16 and 18 9
 (b) The Housing Act, 1957, Section 42 Nil

Housing Acts—Overcrowding

- (a) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year Nil
 (b) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year None known

Housing Acts 1949-59

Number of dwellings for which applications for grants have been received :—

(a) Standard Grant	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
(b) Discretionary Grant	....	....	....	....	....	....	10

Number of dwellings subject to grant

(a) Standard Grant	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
(b) Discretionary Grant	....	....	....	....	....	....	10

Number of houses owned by local authority which have been subject to grant aid by the Ministry Nil

Moveable dwellings, tents, vans, etc.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

Number of Site licences 1

Total number of caravans permitted under such licences 1

Number of inspections during the year

Sites Nil

Caravans 4

No. of Contraventions remedied Nil

Number of sites exempt from licence Nil

Number of caravans thereon Nil

Public Health Act 1936

Number of site licences Nil

Number of individual licences Nil

Bakehouses

Number in district 3

Number of inspections 30

No. of contraventions Nil

Defects remedied Nil

Ice Cream

No. of manufacturers on register Nil

No. of premises licenced for sale of ice cream 10

No. of inspections of premises made 19

No. of contraventions found Nil

remedied Nil

No. of samples taken : Grade I Nil Grade II Nil
 Grade III Nil Grade IV Nil

Meat Products

No. of premises registered for manufacture of meat products 6

No. of inspections made 30

No. of contraventions found Nil

No. remedied Nil

Other food premises

No. of inspections 76

No. of contraventions found Nil

Slaughterhouses

No. licenced :— Abattoir type Nil. Private 4

No. operated by local authority : Abattoir type : Nil. Other Nil

Unsound Food.
Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows		Sheep & Lambs		Pigs	Horses	Total
Number killed (if known)	553	6	8	1843	1747	—	4157
Number Inspected	553	6	8	1843	1747	—	4157
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned	3	—	—	5	2	—	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	34	—	—	2	3	—	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis or and cysterci	6.6	—	—	2.6	2.5	—	
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	14	—	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	1.2	—	
Cysterosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other food condemned							
24 lbs. Chopped pork.							
4 lbs. Corned Beef.							
20 lbs. York Ham.							

Drainage and Sewerage

Closets

No. of houses with privy vaults in district	....	....	....	....	8
No. of houses with pail closets in district	....	....	....	....	39
No. of houses with water-closets in district	....	....	....	....	805
No. of water closets substituted for pail closets and privy vaults	....	....	....	....	4

Water supplies

Domestic

No. of houses supplied from public mains—in house	....	....	....	....	782
Standpipe/outside tap	....	....	....	....	70

General

Offensive Trades

No. of premises in district	Nil
-----------------------------	------	------	------	------	------	-----

Knackers Yard

No. of licences	Nil
-----------------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-----

Shops Act 1950

No. of shops inspected	....	....	....	....	....	....	59
Contraventions remedied	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil

Disinfection and Disinfestation

Rooms or premises disinfected	Nil
-------------------------------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-----

Refuse Collection and Disposal

No. of premises from which refuse is collected :	....	All premises in area
Frequency of collection :	....	Some weekly, others fortnightly.
Method of Disposal : Part controlled.	....
No. of tips : One.	....
Collection by Local Authority.	....

Nuisances.

Total number of nuisances during year :—	....
Abated as result of informal action by Public Health Inspector	....

20

Details of Nuisances abated

Refuse	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Foul ditches, ponds and stagnant water	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Drainage	....	....	....	....	....	....	18

Rats and Mice Destruction

No. of rodent operatives employed :	....	One shared with Caistor R.D.C.
No. of premises treated :	....
(a) dwellinghouses	....	....
(b) other premises	....	....

10

1

Atmospheric Pollution

No. of visits	Nil
---------------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-----

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1963 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT
OF MARKET RASEN IN THE COUNTY OF LINDSEY.**

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1937

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		In- spections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	25	27	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	1	3	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	26	30	—	—

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found					Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Re-medied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)						
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT—Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)
There are no outworkers employed in the district.

J. H. YRB. PRINTER. MARSHET PASEN

